

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9766

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA DENIES SETTLEMENT REACHED

1. A CLAIM BY THE FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE (FROLIZI) THAT A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH AND BISHOP ABEL MUZOREWA FOLLOWING SECRET ANGLO-RHODESIAN CONSULTATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA WAS DENIED OVER RADIO SALISBURY FEB. 10. ACCORDING TO RADIO NEWS REPORT MONITORED BY EMBOFF, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SMITH REGIME SAID THE REPORT WAS WITHOUT FOUNDATION. BISHOP MUZOREWA COULD NOT BE REACHED FOR COMMENT.

2. ACCORDING TO THE FROLIZI STATEMENT ISSUED IN LONDON AND PUBLISHED BY TIMES OF ZAMBIA, TERMS OF "AGREEMENT" PROVIDED THAT SMITH WOULD REMAIN PRIME MINISTER WHILE MUZOREWA WOULD BECOME VICE PRESIDENT. AFRICAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WOULD BE INCREASED BY 4, GIVING THE HOUSE 20 AFRICAN AND 50 WHITE MEMBERS. CASES OF DETAINEES WOULD BE REVIEWED; THOSE WITH CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS, HOWEVER, WOULD COMPLETE SENTENCES.

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ALLEGEDLY AGREEMENT PROVIDED SETTLEMENT WOULD NOT BE PUT TO

TEST OF ACCEPTABILITY BY RHODESIAN PEOPLE. WHILE MUZOREWA REPORTEDLY SOUGHT OPINIONS OF AFRICAN NATIONALIST LEADERS JOSHUA NKOMO AND NDABANINGI SITHOLE, FROLIZI SAID BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND RHODESIAN REGIME "HAD AGREED PRESENT A FALSE PICTURE OF THE VIEWS OF THE TWO LEADERS."

3. COMMENT. APART FROM DENIAL ISSUED IN SALISBURY, "AGREEMENT" AS YKETCHED BY FROLIZI SOURCE IN LONDON SEEMS UNLIKELY IN ANY EVENT. BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DOUGLAS-HOME GAVE CATEGORICAL ASSURANCE TO GRZ FEB. 1 THAT THERE WERE NO SECRET NEGOTIATIONS WITH SMITH REGIME. CAN ONLY CONCLUDE FROLIZI STATEMENT IS ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT MUZOREWA WITH AFRICAN POPULATION IN RHODESIA AND ELSEWHERE.
WILKOWSKI

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